

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 OPR-02 DRC-01 /117 W

----- 119762

R 251433Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0241

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8703

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) ASMARA 604 (B) ADDIS 8450

1. ACCORDING RADIO, PRIMIN-DESIGNATE LIJ. MICHAEL IMRU RETURNED TO ADDIS MORNING JULY 25. HE WAS MET BY CHIEF STAFF IEMF LG AMAN ANDOM AND, IN BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT, ASKED ETHIOPIANS TO CLOSE RANKS AND PLEDGED DO HIS UTMOST LEAD COUNTRY TO STRENGTHENED UNITY.

2. FOLLOWING MORNING RADION ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IEAF WISHED DEMONSTRATE ITS SOLIDARITY WITH ARMED FORCES, POLICE, TERRITORIALS IN MILITARY REFORM OVEMENT BY OVERFLYING CITY, AIR FORCE JETS DID MAKE SEVERAL LOW LEVEL PASSES OVER ADDIS MID-AFTERNOON.

3. EMBASSY HAS VARYING REPORTS ON EX-PRIMIN ENDELKACHEW. SOME HAVE HIM UNDER HOUSE ARREST (GUARDS AT DOOR, PHONE CUT OFF) AS OF EVENING JULY 24. OTHERS SAY HE NOW IN PALACE. ALL AGREE AFCC UNWILLING HOLD HIM WITH OTHER DETAINEES WHOSE ARREST ORDERS HE SIGNED.

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4. THERE STILL ROADBLOCKS ON MAJOR ARTERIES LEADING OUT OF ADDIS, INCLUDING SOME UNAUTHORIZED ONES. POLICE REORT FOUR RECENT ARRESTS OF MEN IMPERSONATING MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO RELIEVED TRAVELER'S OF SOME ARMS AND CASH BEFORE ALLOWING THEM TO GO THEIR WAY. CURFEW BEING MAINTAINED.

5. ALMOST 900 PERSONS WERE RELEASED UNDER TRADITIONAL AMNESTY PRONOUNCED ON EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY. SEVEN HUNDRED SAID HAVE BEEN PROVINCIALS, AND MOST COMMON LAW CRIMINALS. WE ARE CHECKING WITH TENNECO PROBLEM IN MIND HOW MANY - IF ANY - MAY HAVE BEEN ERITREAN "POLITICALS."

6. LOWER HOUSE PARLIAMENT TODAY SELECTED ATO BARO TUMSA (PHARMACIST AND LAWYER) TO REPLACE ATO ZENEBE HAILE (ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL) ON COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY (REF B). ZENEBE HAD DECLINED POSITION. ONCE BEREKET-AB RETURNS TO ETHIOPIA, COMMITTEE WILL HAVE ALL 15 MEMBERS ON BOARD. BIO NOTE - BARO TUMSA REPORTEDLY ACTIVE IN GALLA LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND VERY ANTI-AMHARA. HE WAS FORMER RADICAL STUDENT LEADER AND MIN. PUBLIC HEALTH EMPLOYEE. WYMAN

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## Message Attributes

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